

GRIMELLOIS Fortunes.

VWith his Entertainment in
his trauaile.

A discourse full of pleasure.



L O N D O N

Printed for E. White, and are to bee sold at his
Shopp neere the little North doore of S. Pauls
Church at the Signe of the Gun.

1604

CRIMINALS

FOR

With his Entertainment in

and to witness a



LONDON

Printed for H. W. and me to be sold at

Shoppes of the

1665



To the Reader.

Grimellos Fortunes were more then were spoken of, and such as are, you may easily consider of : Who runnes many courses, is some-time out of the way, and so was hee, and euery man cannot thriue, no more did he: yet his will was good, so may be yours : But his Fortune was so so, so may be yours. But what became of him in the end, is not spoken : and what you meane to doe, I cannot Iudge. Him I had litle acquaintanee with, and you lesse: on- ly his name I haue reade, but yours I know not, that I hane heard of: Of him I heare no euill, nor wish to heare any of you: Him I finde wittie, and you I hope to finde wise; if not, I shall be sorrie for your witte, as mine owne Fortune, to let my labours fall into your hands. But I will thinke the best, and so in the best thought I rest in hope of your patience.

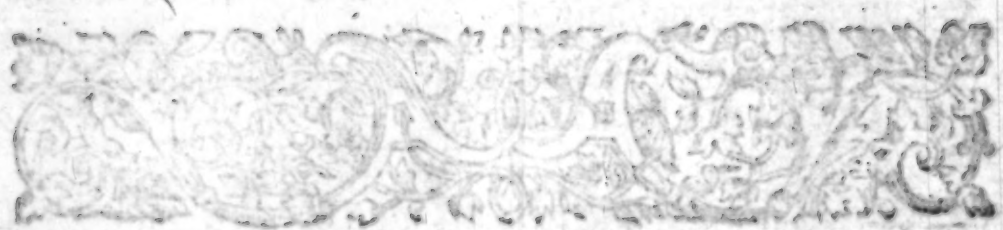
Your friend,
B. N.



To Mr. R. R. R.

Great Fortune were more than were spoken of
and such are your way easily could be of
it has many counts, a home-thing out of the way,
and so wasted, and every man cannot think, a more del
better this will was good, to say by your: The Fortune
was to so, to say by your: But what became of him in the
end, is not looked: and what you meant to do, I cannot
Judge. But I had like to quarrel with, and you latter on
by his name I have read, but yours I know not that I have
heard of: Of him I hear no evil, nor will to have a y of
you: Him I hope write, and you I hope to find wife if not
I shall be sorry for your wife, as mine own, to be
my labour still into your hand. But I will think the best,
and so in the best thought I rest in hope of your patience.

Your friend,
B. W.



THE ENTERTAINMENT OF

Grimello, by Signior Ganuzido, as he
ouer-tooke him on the way.

Grimello. Ganuzido.

Gri. **Y**ou are well ouer-taken Sir. Gan. What: are you so sure of it? Gri. Sure, of what Sir? Gan. Why, my Purse. Gri. Your Purse? no Sir, it was the least part of my thought. Gan. Why, what haue you taken the? or haue you authoritie to take soles as you finde them in yous waie? If you haue, you may happen yet to be deceined. Gri. Why Sir, I let no sayings for Wood-cocks, and though I be no great wise man, yet I can doe something else, then showe the Soile for my luting: and therefore, I pray you neither feare your Purse, nor play too much with my folly. But if you can finde in your hart to do good for him that cannot deserue it, and will trust a stranger, with as much as you dare lose, it may be I should tell you a longer tale then you would beleue, or else finde you kinder then I can looke for.

Gan. Why: saie I were as I may be (for ought you know) an honest man, and of ability to doe for you more then I meane to prate of, if I like of your talke, and your behauiour, what would you saie to mee? Gri. I could say something vnto you, but that my hart is full. Gan. Of what? Gri. So, so does. Gan. For what? Gri. Oh Sir, it were a

would to tell you the discourse of the causes of them.

Ga. Well then, by the waie, let me aske you a question or two. Gri. As many as please you. Ga. Then first, tell me whence came you? Gri. From *Terra Florida*, and am going to *Isola Brata*. Ga. Oh, I vnderstand a litle Latin, and if I be not much mistaken, you came from the flourishing Lande, and are traouailing towarde the blessed Iland. Gri. Very true sir. Ga. Then figuratiuely, you came from the Ale-house, and are going to the Lanerne. Gri. Oh sir, you make too hard a construction of my disposition: for, though a cup of good Ale be comfortable in the morning, and a draught of old Sacke, warme the hart to bed-ward: yet for my selfe, I hold a moderate dyet the holisomest Physick, and for those kinde of houses, they are but for necessitie: and therefore I pray you sir, be better conceiued of my condition.

Ga. Well then, let me aske you, how you made your walke hither? Gri. In briefe sir, not knowing your busines, in admitting your leasure, or requiring more haste, and so fearing by tediousnes, to be some trouble to your patience, with your good fauour sir, thus it is. After that I had past the great Mountaine of mishaps, I fell into a long baile of miserie, in which I haue wandred to the foote of this hill of hope, on which I haue not bene a litle comforted, since I came into your presence.

Ga. Come, you are so fine, but will you not be angrie, if I tell you my minde, touching your figures? Gri. Not for my life sir. Ga. Then it may be, you were going by Holbourne-Hill, and so afterwarde to Tiburne: From whence, hauing escaped more by good fortune, then desert, you haue gone a begging ever since: and hauing learned your termes of arte, either at Schoole, (which you haue not so gotten, to put to an ill vse) or among such as your selfe, that with Eloquence, to take to colen simplicitie of a litle coine, you would draw a hand of me: but you are deceiued in me, or it may be, that I am deceiued in you, and therefore I pray you tell

me what you are, your profession and purpose: it may be for
your good: for your hurt believe me it shall not be.

Gri. Sir, tell you what I am, you know what all men are,
and so am I: Dust and Ashes and wormes meate, my pro-
fession honesty: which, if the heavens will favour, I care for
no fortune. Ga. Well said, but how do you profess hone-
sty? Gri. I protest. Can. What, do you onely protest ho-
nesty? Why then, your profession is but a protestation, as
thus: You protest it a thing necessarie in a common wealth,
but more commendable then commodious for many men to
deale withall. Gri. Oh no sir, no such matter: I know there
is no true commoditie without it, and for my selfe, in all the
courses that I haue yet runne, I haue had so great a care of
it, & so great a loue to it, that I haue had rather haue lost all
that I had in the world, and my selfe last of all, then haue li-
ued without it: and without boast be it spoken, I now haue
it about me, and carrie it easily without any weight or trou-
ble.

Ga. And where, I pray you? Gri. Cruely sir, in my hart,
where I hope it is too fast, for euer getting out, while I liue.
Can. Well then, if I must needs (as I haue yet no reason to
the contrary) believe what you saie, Let me heare a litle of
your courses, and of your honesty in them. Gri. I will tell
you Sir first: After I had past out Crosse-rowe, speld, and
put together, read without a fustian, had my Grammer
Rules without booke, and was gone from Schoole to the U-
niuersities, there beginning in Philosophie, by Gods grace
to iudge betwixt good and euill: and what honour was in
honestie, and what shame in the contrarie: I rather noted
then loued the fallacies in arguments: and gouerning na-
ture with reason, I was called the honest Scholler: For I
neuer bled Rhetorick to perswade wickednes, nor Poetrye
in wantonnesse, nor Diuinitie in pride, nor law in Coue-
tousnesse, nor Physicke in malice, nor Musicke in beggery:
but held learning so honozable in all studies, that I auoy-

ded all that I might any waie disgrace her.

Ca. And there-with-all you wakke. Gri. Why Sir: Can, Why, I cannot see how being awake, you could doe so: Temptations, Illusions, and suggestions (and I know not what such other trickes) would haue put you so out of your By-ace, that you would some time haue lost the cast, had you bowled neuer so well. But let me heare you a litle speake of your honesty in all your poynts of learning.

Gri. Why, I tell you, I made no loue to wenches, I did cosen no simple trust with vntruth: I fed my flocke, vndid no Clyent, popsoned no patient, nor followed a Fayzie with a blinde fiddle: but wonne the wilfull with good wordes, to a good waie: made verses in the onely hono^r of vertue: was true to my friends, followed my Clyents case to his content, Preached euery weeke in my Parish Church: Cured soundly my Patients, and made content my best Musique.

Ca. And yet could not thrive with all this? Gri. Oh no. Can. The reason? Gri. I will tell you, wordes had no weight without money, and I was poore, and the rich were couetous: therefore my good wordes onely did good, to good mindes, that benefited not a litle by my labours: but my gaine was only a good name: so that most my enemy which wold saie, I was a foole, wold saie, that I was an honest man. My Poetry belyed no mans villanie, nor laide open his shame, but reprehended vice privately, and touched no mans name in infamy. My Clyents wold pray for my life, for my true pleading: and my Parish all loued me, because I was contented with what they gaue me: my patients commended my medicines, and my Musique was pleasing, because it was not common.

Can. Well, then sir, your Rhetoricke was gracious, your Poetrie diuine, your diuinitie pure, your Law Justice, your Physicke learned, and your Musique Harmonious: and yet with all these, you could not thrive,

Gri. No, for I could not flatter nor faine, nor be idle, nor

sell breath, nor beare malice, nor abide beggery. Can. Well
said, I like you well for this: but let me go a little farther on
with you out of booke-matters: What other courses haue
you past with this same honestie?

Gri. Truly Sir, after that I had left my hard studie, I
became a Courtier. Can. Psea marrie Sir, now you come
to me: let me heare a little of that poynnt with you. Gri. I
will tell you Sir, my place being not great there, I can tell
you of no great matters, but thus far without offence. I lo-
ued no Paining on my face, no superfluitie in my dyet, nor
excesse in my apparrell, nor to creepe to a Thorne, nor to flat-
ter a foole, nor conueyse with a Muchawilion, nor to make
idle loue, nor to scoffe at vertue, nor to quarrel for trifles,
nor to tell lies, nor to importune friends, nor to delay suitors:
but in all poynnts of courtesie, so linked honestie with mode-
stie, that, being faithfull to my God, loyall to my Soueraign,
carefull of my selfe, and kinde vnto my friend: my hart was
all daie in a good harbour, and at night my Conscience made
me sleepe quietly.

Can. All this I like well, and the rather for that your e-
state answeres (at this time) to the condition of simplicity:
but on a litle further for I greatly care not to talke so much
of Court-courses: and yet I pray you tell me the cause why
you had such a care of your honestie in all your Court-times?
But first, let me aske you, why you would not paint your
face as many doe?

Gri. Because I would not offend God with letting an
other colour on my face, then Nature by his grace had gi-
uen me.

Can. Well said, but why did you forbear superfluitie
in your diet?

Gri. For that, with gluttonie and drunkennesse, I would
not please the deuill. Can. Very good, now why doe you
mislike excesse in apparrell? Gri. Because the wise that
saw my fashions should not laugh at me for my folly.

Gan. A good care: but why would you not creepe to a Thiefe?

Gri. For feare of picking my knees, and making an idoll of idlenes. Gan. And why doe you hate to flatter a foole?

Gri. Because I fret at my miserie, to tye my patience to ignorance, and I would scunne the infection of a thirsting spirit.

Ga. Well said, but why would you not conuerse with a Machauilion? Gri. For feare of a villaine. Gan. Why would you not make loue? Gri. Because of the fashion.

Gan. How so? Gri. Why, it is vnfit to the body, or the minde, or state, or common, or foolish, or an idle thing or an other about it, so that I was loth to lose time, about the triall of it. Ga. Good, but why durst you not scoffe at vertues?

Gri. For feare to be hatefull both to God and man.

Ga. A gratiuous conceit: Now why did you mislike of quarrels?

Gri. Because they are enemies to peace, dangers of death, and disquietnes of the senses. Ga. Very good: now why did you hate lying?

Gri. Because of the devil is the author of it, no honest man but abhors it: no Christian but may be ashamed of it: few or none but the wicked loue it: Furthermore, when I tell true, I shall not be beleued.

Gan. You saie well: Now, why would you not importune friends?

Gri. For feare to weary them, and so to lose them. Gan. Why would you not deliaie Sutors?

Gri. Because I would not abuse their trust, nor bee pittifull of their misery.

Gan. All this I like well: but for that I like not too much to talke of Court-courses, I pray you tell mee of your next course, and honestie in it. Gri. Very willingly. The next was Armes: I left the Court and followed the field, fought by danger to winne Honor: and when by deserts of service, I had gotten to the charge of Government: I did not abuse my credit, with either foolish hardines, or base Cowardice.

Gan. What was your reason? Gri. For feare, by the

first,

first, to loose either mine honoꝝ, oꝝ my people: By the other, to loose my credite vnrecoꝛuerable. Gan. Well said. Now to your next poynt.

Gri. I would not deceiue my souldier of his pay, noꝝ make a melch-Cow of a man. Gan. And why: profite goeth beyond Conscience in many considerations. Gri. Yea, with such as thinke of no other world but this: but I haue no part in their play, foꝝ honoꝝ admitts no Auarice, and it is an vnchristian humoꝝ, to make money of men.

Gan. Well said, and what was your next care? Gri. Not to forget mercie in Justice, not to fauour the vitious, noꝝ to pardon the obstinate. Gan. And why: Gri. Because as Justice is the grace of Iudgement, so is mercy the gloꝝy of Justice.

Gan. Why would you not fauour the vitious? Gri. Because they are the enemies of God, and the spoyle of men.

Gan. You saie true, but last of all, wherefoꝛe would you not pardon the obstinate? Gri. Foꝝ feare of infecting of other, and growing into a greater mischiese, if hee scape unpunished.

Ga. A good consideration, foꝝ in time of warre, one malicious villaine may marre a whole Campe: these indeed were honest cares in you: but it seemes, fortune was not alwaies your friend, oꝝ else she would haue furnished you better foꝝ your preferment: But I see, you haue learned patience, which is a great vertue in all men, and in all courses. It seemes you had no pleasure in sying of Cities, in bloudy massacres, noꝝ in robbing of Churches.

Gri. Oh no, foꝝ God neuer prospereth the blood-thirstie, the mercilesse, noꝝ the ingratiuous: and indeed, I must saie what I know, that a true Souldier, is neither Thiefe, Murderer, noꝝ vnmmercifull. Gan. I am of your minde in this: But not to trouble you too much with enquiring after your courses in the warres: let mee a litle aske you of the next course, and as you said, of your honestie in it.

Gri. Very

Gri. Very willingly. The next course I took was this: finding my bodie, not answerable to my minde, and the gaines of my adventures no greater then would defraie the charges of my necessarie expences: I left the field, and took me to my chamber, where resolved to betake my selfe wholly to my booke: I fell soundly to the study of the law: in which, when I had so profited, that I was able to pleade a case, and iudge betwixt right and wrong. I had that care of my conscience, that, of poore men I would take no money, and of the rich, I would not be bribed: And finding by some small ordinary fees, I could hardly paie for my booke, my chamber, and my apparell, and my out-side being farre unfit for the comelines of that profession: I was enforced to leaue that course, to a conscience of an other kind: and seeing the misery of Clients, the quiddities in Cases, and the long delayings in Courts: I left the Law, sold my booke, and my chamber, and keeping only a Night-gowne to keepe mee warme in a cold winter, I got me into the Country, there intending to plaie the good husband: Where, hauing taken the lease of a prettie farme, I hoped to make much of a litle.

Gri. Well said, but let me aske you, why you would not take money of poore men: for counsell?

Gri. Because their miserie should not curse my Couetousnesse: for though the rich would wrong them, I would not wrong them.

Gri. And well said, a signe of a good minde: But why would you receiue no bribes of the rich? Gri. Because I would not sell breath for money, and I had more care of my Conscience, then their Coine.

Gri. Well spoken, a signe of a gracions spirit. And since a good Conscience, is better then a golden Castell, you did better to seeke a quiet life with a meane gaine, then to charge your Conscience with a heape of treasure. But since the studie of the Law, is both tedious & costly, I hold a good Pleader worthie his Fee, and a reuerent Iudge worthie his honoꝝ:

Honor, without whose great care and trailla, the Common wealth would hardly be kept in good order: And therefore I will leaue further to talke of your Law-courses, and intreat you to tell me how you fared with the farmie?

Gri. Oh very well: as long as my Purse was my friend, I had Horses, Bullocks, Cowes, Sheepe and Corne, and companie enough to helpe me to spend more then I got: yet would I not mingle the fusty, ouer-growne corne, with the sweet and good. I would not sell an old sheepe for a Lambe, no: an old Cowe for a yong Heifer: I would not forsell any markets, take any house ouer a Tennants head: sell rotten Trees for good timber, raise the price of graine: no: of Cattell, no: defraud the labourer of his hire: But when my Cattle dyed, my fruit was blasted, and my Purse grew so bare, that great rents would not be paide with faire words: two or three yeares brought me so downe the winde, that I could neuer looke vp more to the welkin: and so in briefe, selling all that I had, hauing no charge of wife, no: children, I took that litle that remained after the discharge of my debts, & going into some strange place where I was not knowen, I meant to seek my fortune, in the service of some such Noble or honest Gentleman, as would in his discretion, regard the care of my duty.

Ga. Why, haue you euer serued? Gri. Yes a while, but I haue obserued the carriage of diuerse, and not the worst wits in their places that haue serued: which, if it were my happe to come into, I would vtterly auoide.

Ga. I pray you tell mee some of your notes, for by your iudgement in that you haue rehearsed, I can beleue nothing in you to be idle.

Gri. I thanks you Sir, for your good opinion of me, but howsoeuer I proue, I will satisfie your request. When I came into a house where I saw diuersity of seruants, and e- uery one make a gaine in his place: I began to cast mine eyes about me, when I might see one carrie a ring in his mouth,

& it made not his teeth bleed. I heard an other clasp a back, as though he would leane no flesh on the bones: an other playe so on both hands, as if he had put downe a cunning Jugler: an other playing at Bo-peepe, with the eyes of his mistresse: an other following Iudas, in betraying his maister, and yet not one of these but made a gaine of his villanie.

Ga. As how I pray you? if at least you can tell mee, and first for the King-carrier?

Gri. Why, when no man would challenge the Stone, he should haue the gold for his labour. Ga. Well touched; Now, for the next: to the Claw-backe, what got hee by his trade?

Gri. Some-what more then a Louse, when he met with a suit of Satten. Ga. Well saide, now to the third: the Ambodreter, he that plaies on both hands?

Gri. Sir, Iacke of both sides, got a cloke of his master, and a shirt of his mistres, when he did fit her humour, & serue his turne.

Ga. Well hit, but, to the fourth now: Wagge-wanton with his mistresse. Gri. Oh, hee gate his masters loue through her commendation, and her comfort through his otiose diligence.

Ga. A necessarie seruant, it is a signe he was not idle, when he was so well occuppyed. Gri. Exercised, you would haue said, Sir I thinke at least. Ga. Oh you saie well: but nothing is ill-spoken that is not ill-taken. But, now to the last, the Iudas, what gained he?

Gri. That, which of all I praye God keep me from. Ga. Why man, what was it? Gri. Why Sir, the Gallows, if not hell. But it is a threwoode presumption: for Treason is surely the very high-way to hell.

Ga. Well said: then if thou wert well entertained, with a good maister, thou wouldest neither carrie a ring, clasp a backe, playe on both hands, be no wagge-wanton, with thy mistresse, nor Iudas with thy maister.

Gri. Po.

Gri. No indeede Sir, I would be none of these. Ga. What would you then doe, or can you do, if vpon my good liking, of your behauiour, I should procure your preferment? Gri. Sir, I can do many things, more then I meane to boast of, and when I know of what title, either for hono: or honesty, my maister or mistres may be, I will then tell you, how I can fit my seruice to their contentment.

Ga. Well then, saie he were a yong Lord, and I would preferre you to attend him in his chamber. Gri. I would neuer be without a brush for his apparrell: I would see his chamber neatly kept, his bed soft and finely made, his linnen cleane washed, and his chestes fast locked: I would be humble in my behauiour, and ciuill in my demeanour, go discretly on a message, bring him word of his mistresse health, and his Cousins good rest: and what time of the daie it is, &c.

Ga. Well put off, but saie it were a fine Gentlewoman, that I would put you to?

Gri. Oh, I would be full of curtesie, hold her Glasse steady, bring her painting vnsene, and her Perriwig incrusshed: Haue her taylour at a becke, runne quickly for her errand, now and then tel her a merrie tale: and once in fauour, neuer lose it againe I warrant you.

Ga. But will you not commend her fauourite. Gri. No, I hate that vile basenes, or rather, base villanie, to make my tongue an enemy to my hart: I would rather leaue her to seek a seruant, then I would be found in such a seruice.

Ga. Well said: but saie that it were to a meaner person, I should put thee, I cannot saie, prefer thee to: as for example: Let me saie it be some honest man of trade or traffique, or so forth; how could you behaue your selfe, that I might hope of your credite?

Gri. Why Sir, I would keepe his booke of account, call by his reckonings once in foure and twenty houres, looke wel vnto his shoppe, leaue the price of his wares, aske what lacke you of passers bye, vse his Chap-men kindly, and

every one with courtesie: so that I would get more with good
words, then some other should do with good ware. In brieft,
I would be an honest man, and that is worth all.

Ga. Good all that I yet heare: if there be no worse matter
in you, then I haue yet heard from you, no hope to finde in
you, I do not greatly care, if your case be desperate, that for
lacke of entertainment, to saue the charge of an empty purse,
you would venture vpon a bad maister rather then none, ile
trie a litle what you can doe about my house: Base actions,
as filling the Dung-cart, going to plough, keeping of hogs,
or washing of buckes, sweeping the houses, or making cleane
shoes: these offices, I haue in my house; Boyes and Girles
enough, fit for the purpose. But to over-see my family, to in-
struct my childzen, to be Steward of my courts, keeper of my
Parke, ranger of my Forrest, and now and then to wait on
my wife: one of these offices, if any be void, I care not if I
place thee in, so that in thy good carriage, thou dost not de-
ceiue my expectation?

Gri. Sir, not to trouble you with idle ceremonies, tye
me, and trust me: either you or your Ladie. Ga. You saie
well: but by the wase, because it is about three miles to my
house, and good talke passeth the time well away. Let me en-
treat you to tell mee some-what of your Fortunes in your
crosse courses; if, at least, they be not such, as you will in mo-
destie conceale, or are not willing to call in memorie.

Gri. No Sir, I feare not to satisfie your desire, either in
respect of my follie or my fortune. For the first is excusable
in youth, and the other is her selfe in all ages: and therefore
let me tell you, thus it was: In my young and litle better
then childish yeares, my father hauing put me to schole, to a
more furious then wise Schole-master, who by the helpe of
his Usher (a better scholler then himselfe,) brought by a fewe
good wits, to better vnderstanding then his owne: I hauing
learn'd to spell and put together, to Construe, and Parce, to
write my letters and to sojgne, and to make my mistresse
Pittles,

Wittles, when my maister was from home? It fell out I know not how, that he, being a man very vigilant in all his courses; and seeing my mistresse beautie able to make a good Scholler forget his lesson, imagining by his studie in Astro- nomie, that the signe of his Fortune, stood too straight vpon Capricorne, meaning to crosse the fates in their powerse founde a meanes to remoue all his Borders from his house, in regarde of a Melgrum in his head, which was much trou- bled by the noise of our Pu-rulines. Now I, as little guiltie, as any of the cause of his follie, was yet among my fellows banished his house, and shortly after, sent home to our friendes. Where hauing idled it so long, that booke were enemies to our delights, I like a good wagge among other, seeing one daie a gallant Knight come home to my fathers house, finding my spirite not so dull as to dwell alwaies in one place: made all the meanes I could to pferre my selfe into his seruice. Which, with my mothers entreatie, my father brought to passe: Pferred I was to this Gal- lant, and from a Scholler must turne Page; when, if I should tell you the tenth part of the waggeries, that I passed thorowly, I should breake mine oathe on the Pantable, call olde trickes in question, and perhaps, wrong some that were my fellows then, who would bee loath to heare of it now: Yet will I not be so sparing of my speech, but that I dare tell you one merrie parte, that I and my good fellows plaide, that perhaps is worth the laughing at.

Can. I pray you do.

Gr. I will tell you thus it was, I being in my youth rea- sonably well-fauoured, of a pure complexion, and of a reason- able good stature, and having wit enough, vpon a litle war- ming to plaie the wagge in the right vaine: It was my happe among other my fellow-Pages, to take knowledge, of a certaine Gallant in our Court, a man of no great worth any waie, and yet, a sufficient Blocke for Frogsse to leape vpon. His yeeres about some twentie two,

as thereabouts, his complexion, Sea, cole-sanguine, a most
wicked face, and a wit correspondent: to be short, for that ill
faces make no pleasant descriptions, let it suffice, that hee
was every waie a verie filthie fellow: and yet, having bet-
ter clothes then he was worthy to weare, and more money
then he could wisely vse: This Hob-lollie, with flauering
lips, would be making loue, and that not onely to one, but e-
uerie daie one: & though he were scarce welcome to any, yet
would he blash at no disgrace. This yonker had we founde
out, and hearing of his disposition, we fitted his humoz, one
of vs would borrow a Ladies comendations, to get an An-
gell withall, for a message: An other get a Rose-gate or a
Baie lease, and bring from his mistress, which came by
with fine, with a French Crowne: An other or two of vs,
haunt him at dinner, and with a song or a Galliard, nibble
on his Purse for a piece of gold: An other of vs, somewhat
towards the man, and in a manner past a Page, would fall
in hand with him for a rest or two, till which, some secrete
tricks of our owne setting, we could dine into a few Crowns
worth the taking by. Now when we had fedde vpon him so
long, that we feared it would come out: we deuised to late a
plot to be-foole him to the full. We had among vs one fine
boie, (I will not saie, my selfe, whose feature and beauty
made him an amiable creature.) This youth, we had agreed
among our selues, to make a meanes, by which, to catch this
Wood-cocke in a fine spring: Which, in few daies after, wee
enacted, as I will tell you: we got apparrell of a Gentle-w-
man, (a waiting woman of a Ladie) of whom, hauing ac-
quainted her with our intended sport, wee borrowed manie
things fit for our purpose. This Boye (being now a supposed
Wench) we caused to take a lodging right ouer against this
Wizards hospitall: Where, out of his window, beholding
this beautifull object, his eyes were no soner Lymed with
blindnesse, but, his heart was so set on fire with folly, that
there was no waie to quench it, but the fauour of this ima-
gined

gined faire Ladie, Gentle-woman, & mistresse, what you will. Now, we that daile vied, (more for our comfort, then his commoditie) to visite him, no sooner in his chamber hauing gotten a view of her, but wee fell with admiration to commend her beyond the Moone for an excellent creature: Oh, what an Eye: what a Lippe: what a fore-head? what a cheeke: what a haire? what a hand? what a bodie? For farther, at the window we could not see: Thus by litle and litle, we brought him halfe madde before, with conceite, ready to hang himselfe for loue. And now must those litle wits he had, go to worke, to shew his folly. Now wee must get him a Poet, to make him verses in her commendation, a Scholler to write his Love-letters, Musique to play vnder her window, and Gloues, Scarfes, and Fannes to bee sent for presents, which might be as it were foze-speakers for his entertainment: And thus, when we had fitted him for all turnes, wee got him such fauorable access, vpon promise of no dishonorable attempt, that where before he was but other-shoes, he was nowe other-head-and-ears for an Ass. For now began he to thinke well of him selfe, and that he should carrie the Bellawale for Beautie; when hee should indee carrie awaie the Bable for follie. Well thus, hauing a fewe daies played with his pose, & hauing agreed with the of the house to some ignozant of her name and cuntrie: but that she was a suitor at the Court: They knew not wherefore, when, in pittie, to pull the poze sole too lowe on his knits: with holding him off too long from his off or on: The deuised one night that he should be at great cost with a supper in her lodging, and there should be certaine Gentle-women, to accompany her & that should offer her what kindnesse might lie in their powers in the Court. These we brought, as wee made him beleue, to let them see his fauour, and good regarde with this rare creature, but came indeed onely with a forced modestie, to conceale a laughing at this Coches-combe: not to dwell too long vpon circumstances, the Supper was provided,

allded, the guesstes bidden, the Musique in tune, the Gentleman welcome, and the Boye plaide his part in the Q. Hee had the kisse of the hand, bowes and protestations, gifts and presents, and what not, that might be witnesse of his folly: Now a litle before supper, vnderstanding (by the imagined wench,) that she was the next morning to go out of towne, after solempne promise to bring her on her waie (kindly accepted on her part) to supper they went: where there were so many healths drunk to his mistresse, that with as much a doe as might be drunken to saue his credite, hee took his leane till morning, and so got him home to his lodging: where, having scarce power to stand on his feet, he fell downe on his bedde, where with the helpe of a litle trick that was put in a Cuppe of wine, he slept till next daie none, when like a great Beare, grunting and blowing, hee goeth to the window, where missing his former object (who was now turned Page againe) ashamed of his breach of promise, got him to bed againe: Where, keeping his chamber for a daie or two, and then comming into the Court, seeing some of his fauours woone by one of the Pages, The Boye that plaide the Wagge with him, ashamed to demand them, and fearing his folly to be knowen in the Court: suddenly turned Clown, & with a sighing song, To the tune of, We-la-day, we-l-adaie, got him in y^e cuntrie, where wee neuer heard more of him. Now Sir, was not this a prettie iest, & wel handled?

Ca. Yea for waggies: I know since my selfe was a Page, a number of such waggeries. But yet, I thanke you for this merrie tale, it hath lasted a good while. But now tell mee when you had past the Page, in your next course, what merrie conceit can you remember, that maie last an other mile? that I may thanke you for it.

Gri. I will Sir, since you take this so well: The next course I fell into was Armes: and there I remember in a Towne of Garrison, where I was in paie, the Governour a man, whome some ill fortune without desert, had thowen
upon

Grinello's Fortunes.

Upon an unworthy honour, being of himselfe so
 tymorous of nature, as that a base note of a Dogbatts
 would have made him start, as if he had heard the report of
 a piece of Ordnance. This wicked Creature, by the
 meanes of his Sister (a minion of our Generall) gotten
 into this place: where, though it were farr enough from
 the enemye, yet, for that (if the skie fall, wee must have
 lackes; and so, if the Souldiers were weary of their liues,
 they might come thither for a hanging: for, except wee
 would fall out among our selues, there was no feare of
 any thing but Sparrow-blasting; and yet here I know
 not what cause more then to shatter sleepes,) wee held a
 strong Carrison: For the Governour being better mo-
 ued, then otherwise minded, seating some two-legged
 Kats, should breake into the mouthes of his bags, did not
 much enuyron his feate (for he was compounded all of li-
 tle better matter) within some seauen walles without his
 Caste, beside Ditches of no litle breadth and depthe:
 and within, some seauentene double and treble walles
 within the house: where, (as close as a flea in a flocke-
 bed) he kept himselfe warme from the cold winde. Now,
 in this close Cabin, (as he used much to confine himself,
 in casting vp of his accounts) one night, after the receipt
 of money for the paye of the Souldiers, locking vp his
 bags in chests of Iron, and then laying vp the keyes un-
 der his beds head, trusting none to lye in his chamber, but
 a sonne of his owne, who was too young to be a thiefe, and
 yet, by outward appearance seemed to be weary of the fa-
 ther: with this sonne, a Page as it was said, (a bastard of
 his by a Beggar) to whom he gave but five pence for a
 daies worke: With these two (in a Couch by his beds
 side) to bedde goeth his base worship, and there, having
 made a reasonable supper, took indifferent rest. But, after
 his first sleepe (which was but a kinde of slacking himselfe)

D

he

Grimcellos Fortunes.

he fell into a dreame: all of warres, discharging of Ordnance, syring of houses, and crye of people: in which, not a litle amazed or frightened, he started out of his bed, with crying out Arme, Arme. The watch (or rather the Guardes) hearing this suddaine noyse, fearing some great Kat had bitten their Capitaine by the Nose, (where there was a rich breakfast for a dozen of leane Wile:) upon the suddaine brake in with, How now my Lord: Well quoth he, with a Hah, as though his soote being in the Chamber pot, he had bene afraid of drowning: But as a man in such a maze might some-what come to himselfe, brake into this speech. My maisters and friends, there is no interpreted great matter of importance, but, vnto carefull spirits are reuealed in their slapes, that by the prouidence of Gods discretion, they may be preuented. This Towne is a place of great regard with our Generall, the carefull gouernment thereof is committed vnto my honestie: I would be loath to see the perishing of so many soules, and the secke of so manie houses, as by lacke of care may fall out, if it be not the better looked vnto: Now, what stratagems are in hand we know not: The enemye is subtile and strong, wee cannot be too warie of a mischiefe, you know: Had-I-will is a soile in all courses, and I would bee loath to lose my credite, in slacking my care in the charge committed vnto me: to be short, I was this night much troubled in my sleepe with sharpe warres, syring of houses, the report of the Canon, and great crye of the people: and the vision, as it was very dreadfull, so it continued long, and therefore being perswaded, that it giueth me warning of some mischiefe intended against this towne, so would I bee glad in what I may to prevent it: And therfore call hither the Capitaine of the watch vnto mee. This, when hee had stammeringly in a pitifull feare brought out, with a Walsey-shaking-hand, hauing but-

toned

toned by his Doublet, called for his Armour (which all of
 Muskets proofe he put on, with all the hast y^e might be) and
 being furnished to marte with a whole swarme of flies,
 (with his double guard) out he goes and marte the Capi-
 taine in his Hall: where, the winde blowing high, and
 making a noyse in the house, he staied & asked him, ha the
 quoth he, doe you not heare the noyse of some shot? Oh no,
 Sir quoth he, it is the winde in the Chimney. Oh, is it so
 said he, then good enough. But let me tel you, I haue had a
 threwe dreame to night: and therefore am willing to
 walke the Round, to see how the Souldiers keepe watch.
 My Lord, quoth the Capitaine, you shall need to doubt
 nothing vpon my life I warrant you. It is now towards
 daie, and the watch is vpon discharge; I praye you keepe
 your Chamber, and take your rest. Well, quoth he, if it be
 so, I know you carefull and honest, and I will leaue all to
 your charge, till I come abroad: And so leauing the Capi-
 taine, retires himselfe into his chamber: where, keeping
 on his Armour, here sets him downe in a chaire, and there
 not trusting his bed any longer for that time, hauing ta-
 ken a nappe or two; the watch vpon their discharge, gaue
 the Capitaine a volley of shot; the noyse whereof awa-
 king this gallant man of two Armes: Doe, quoth he, to
 the Guard, one of ye know, what shot is this? who bring-
 ing him word of the discharge of the watch, he was a little
 at quiet. But the daie being a Saints daie, when vsually
 the Countrie people vsed to make such pastime, as fitted
 the condition of their humors: some what early from a
 Wood vnder a hill, which fronted the Towne, and there
 with Drummes and Fifes (and a few loose shot) came
 toward the towne, to make the Gouernour merrie, with
 a Haie-game and a Horle. Now such a Wagge as my
 selfe minding to make my selfe and some of my friends
 merrie with a Jest, hauing intelligence of the same the

right before, yet seeming ignorant thereof, comes into the
 Towne, with Arme, Arme, for the enemye is at hande.
 This ruse being brought to the gouernour, (he in a colde
 sweat, what with feare, and the weight of his Armour)
 called presently for his Captaines, gaue euery one their
 charge what to doe: which done, providing as well as hee
 might for one: Barricaded all his gates without, and all
 his doores within: And in the midst of a floue-come,
 within a wall of twentie yeardes thicke of stone, Barri-
 caded himselfe within a great wall of earth, which was
 made for a fornaice to cast mettell in for Ordnance:
 There, ouer-head and eares in feare sits he with his two
 Pages: The doore fast locked to him, till anon, the people
 being come in with their merrie shew: went a messenger
 from the Capitaine of the watch, to entreat his Lordship
 to bee partaker of the Pastime, and to entreat the people
 with some kindnesse. The messenger being come to the
 doore and let in, before he could deliuer his message: Well
 quoth hee, (imagining the enemies before the walles)
 What is the Parle that he offereth thee: Parley my
 Lord, quoth the Messenger, it is a Pastime: There is no
 enemye, all friends: Your neighbours are come to
 make you merrie with a Morris-daunce, and a Dais-
 game. Yea, quoth he, is it none other? and with looking in
 his Purse, and giuing him iust nothing: It is well, saie
 awhile, Boie, giue me my sword and my Target, that my
 neighbours shall see how readie I was to meete the ene-
 mie vpon the least Alarm. And with these wordes, cau-
 sing the Trumpet to sound a merrie Note for ioye of the
 deliuerance of his feare: Out he comes among them, and
 like an Ass (as euery man was) shewes himselfe. After a
 litle gratulation (leaving them in their sports) got him
 againe into his lodging, and there calling for his break-
 fast, put off his Armour, and went to bed againe: where,

Isabelles all I will say.

Ca. Is it possible that there is such a Creature in the world?

Gri. Yes, and they wonder all that know him how he should come to have charge of men, that would be as good of a shadow, and be Governor of a Towne that would runne into a bench hole. But the Jest was in the same game: (if you had seen it) For they had made a Lord and a Ladie: and the Foole was like him as one could be like an other. But it was but a Tale, and therefore I will not trouble you any further with it.

Ca. Scarcely hardly, thou art as good as thy word, it is a merrie tale and well told. But if I may not trouble thee too much, let me heare one more, that you light on in your next course.

Ca. With a good will Sir. The next was (as I said before) after I left the warres, I fell againe to my booke, and studied the Law, where I heard a pretty Jest betwixt a Lawyer and two Clients, but it was but short.

Ca. No matter: Short or long, I will thanke thee for it, and therefore I praise thee out with it.

Gri. Well Sir, then thus it was: There were two Countie men rich farmers, fat in purses: (how leane soever in the face) These two, having in some twenty yeares or more (with keeping of bare houses, and wearing of bad cloathes, selling of wheate, and spending of hisse) scraped together more money then many better men. It fell out that (about 20. a litle after mowing time) these two dwelling nere together, and (as it seemed) each one of them rich enough unto himselfe: Fell at controvercie about a Hey-cock, the value whereof by the judgement of the Barlon, and the Countable, and other of the Auncients of the Parish, could not amount to above two and fiftie pence: yet such being the stubbornness of both
them

their stomackes, that no meanes would be made to bring them to agreement: To Lawe they would for the tryall of their right. And now the Angels that had bene long lyen in their Chesses, must vse their winges for the accomplishing of their willes. Counsellours were retayned, Attorneyes were seade, and Soliciters were not forgotten: Daies of hearing delayed, demurres, and injunctions, (and I know not what diuises were vled) from one Court to another to keepe them in their courses so long, till in the ende the Iudge (of more conscience then the pleader) noting the long-time of their sute, the nature of their controuersie, and the substance of the matter, when he had heard all that could be said on either side, made this open speech in the whole Court. See two (maisters) that haue made a long hartell of a little Cozne, and haue spent a great deale of money about a little matter: the cause being such, as is moze to be laughed at, then lamented, Let me tell you, a little short tale, and so I will haue done with you.

There were on a tyme, two men went a fishing for Oysters vpon the Sands at a low Ebbe: the one was blinde, and the other lame: The blinde-man carried the lame-man: so when they had gone a litle waie, they found an Oyster, which the lame-man espied, and shewed the blind-man, with guiding of his hand to take it vp. When he had taken it vp, the lame-man challenged it to be his, because he first saw it: The blinde-man would haue it, because he had taken it out of the Sandes: Thus arguing the case, in conscience who should haue it, There metes them a Lawyer, who, hearing the controuersie betwixt them, made this short ende betwixt them. Giue me, quoth he the Oyster, which, when he had gotten into his hands, he picked out the fish and gaue each of them a shell, and went his waie. So you two, hauing made the
Lawyers

Grinello's Fortunes

Latoyers rich with your willfulness, may repent ye of your follies, & go home & agree together like neighbours, & keep your money in your purses: for I am wearie to heare more of it. The men ashamed of their follies, fulfilled his commandement: went home, cashiered their counsaile, let fall their actions, went home & lived like honest good fellows. Now how like you of this for a Latoyers iest?

Ga. I will serue to warne a wise man how hee plays the foole with his purse. But one more of your next course and then I will trouble you no more.

Gri. Well Sir, I will satisfie your request: The next course was the Farmer, in which time, I remember a prettie Iest, which, if you haue not heard before, will surely make you laugh: But howsoeuer it be, I will tell it you, and thus it was. A neighbour of mine, in good case to line, though not verie wealthie, and yet such a one as with his formality on a Hollidaie at Church, would haue bene taken for the Hedborough of the Parish.

This honest substantiall man, drawing one daie a Mill-poule, among other fish, lighted on a verie great Cele: which, hauing got on lande, hee brought into his house, and put it with small Celes into a Cesterne, where, feeding of it euery Morning and Euening, hee made (as it were) an Idol of it. For, there passed not a daie wherein hee had not that care of his Cele, that it seemed, that hee had not of greater and better matters. This Cele, being taken about Candelmas (hee meant to keepe and feede till Lent following) when hee meant to present him to his Land-lord, for a great gratulation: In the meane-time, hee neuer went out of doores without giuing warning to his wife and his seruants, to looke wel to his Cele. When he came in, how doth mine Cele? when were you with mine Cele? who looked to mine Cele? I charge you looke well to mine Cele.
Now.

Grindelos Fortune

Had his wife, a tollis stout Dame, who made more
 reckoning of honestie, then either beaultie or wisdom (for
 she was troubled with neither) had in her house a young
 Pica (which we call a Magor-a-Pic) This Bird, having
 bin hatched in a pelle hard vnder her chamber window,
 she chanced to take into her education: and being one
 that loved to heare a tongue wagge, either her owne,
 her Connyes, her Maides, or her Wyves: For if one were
 still, the other must be walking: And when they were all
 upon the going, there was no still-piece of Dunquie: It
 fell out that this Good-wife, (not a little displeased at her
 Gose-mans folly) in such so much rare ouer the fish, that
 the fish was but a little set by: one day; (when her Husb-
 band was gone forth) sitting with her maid at the wheele:
 (so full at her heart, that yet her tongue would haue swell-
 led, if it had not broke out at her mouth, began thus to fall
 in hande with her Maide-feruant.) I dare not depose for
 her Virginitie, but, as I said, her maide: We sell thus to
 breake her minde vnto. Wench quoth she, dost thou not
 see what a scurrie thy maister keepes with a scurvy Cete?
 In good earnest a little thing would make me take her out
 of the Cesterne, and put her in a Pye, or eate her some
 waie or other: For better haue one thing for all, then
 haue such a doo as we haue about her. In truth mistris,
 quoth she, (as one whose mouth hung vnto sitting for
 such a piece of meate) If it please you, I will quickly ridde
 you of this trouble. My maister is ridde to your Land-
 lords, and there I know he will tarry to night: If it please
 you, I will fetch her out of the Cesterne, and kill her, and
 feare her, and put her in a Pye, and you may dispatch her
 ere he come home; or faue a place for him when he is qu-
 et after his chiding. Content wench quoth she, I pray the
 dispatch her quickly: I warrant you, quoth shee, so, so, so
 with a cete. Thus was the Cetes death appoyning, and
 the

the matter thoroughly enacted. So the Pye being made
and baked, and set on the Table, and betwixt the maide
and her Dame (or mistresse) brought to such a passe, that
there was very little left for her master. The Maggot-a-Pye
like a vyle Bird (that would keepe no counsaile, but duely
would vse her tongue, to talke of all that she saw or heard)
no sooner saw the good-man come into the house, (but as
shee was taught to speake) began with welcome home
maister: (and then more then she was taught, she fell to
prattle) Hoh maister, my Dame hath eaten the Cele: my
Dame hath eaten the Cele: my Dame hath eaten the
great Cele. The goodman remembryng his fish, began
now to aske his wife, How doth mine Cele: What
meanes the Bird, to talke thus of eating the great Cele.
Such Husband, quoth she, warme you I pray you, and
goe to bed. It is cold and late, talke of your Cele to mor-
row: So quoth he, I will not goe to bed, till I haue seene
mine Cele: and there within a boddy feare of that which
was fallen out, goes to the Cesterne, and there finding
his Cele gonne, comes in againe, as dead at hart as a
Stocke-fish, (and yet resolved to bzaile out of reason)
Comes out: Why hoh (the good-wife ready to burst with
laughing, and yet keeping it in with a fayned sigh) sits
downe in a chaire, and hangs the head, as though she had
had the mother. The maide haring wit enough, (to make a
fole of a tame-goose,) mætes her maister, and catching
him in her armes: cries out, but softly maister, be a man,
and moue not all. My dame you know loues you well,
and it may be she bzaides, and bring you a boye worth
twenty bushels of Celes: saie she had a minde to it, and
hath eaten it: if you should seme to chide for it, it may be
a meane to call her awaie, and that she goes with: And
therfore saie nothing of it, let it goe. For indeed it is gone:
saist thou so my Gille, quoth her, I thanke the: hold the,

there is a Letter for thee, for thy good counsaile, I warrant thee all shall be well. Then in a goes to his wife, & findes her in her chaire sitting as it were heauily: comes to her and takes her by the hand, with how now wife: be of good chere, and take no thought, much good doe thy hart with her, take the rest that are left, if thou haue a minde to them I pray thee. With this, she (as it were awaked out of a trance) said, I thanke you good husband, and so after a few home-complaints, to bed they went, where they agreed so well, that the next morning hee had his part (though it were the least) of that was left, and glad of it to, and so without more adoe, goes about his busines. But no sooner was he out of doores, but the mistresse and the maid, went to the bird the Pye, and taking her out of the Cage, plucked all the feathers off from her head, and left her as bare as a balde Cote, which in the cold winter was very uncomfortable: Which done, she was put into the Cage againe, with these wordes, Tell tales againe of the Cele, doe:

Now about dinner-time, comes in againe the goodman, and brings in with him a neighbour of his, with a good face, but a balde head, that he had almost no haire on it. Now the Pye being let out of the Cage, no sooner sees this man put off his hat, but she skips on his shoulder and sayes: Oh, your head hath bene pild aswell as mine, for telling of tales. You haue told my maister, how my dame eate the great Cele: (and so she would do to any that shee saw bald, that came into the house.) And was not this a merrie iest of the Pye and an Cele?

Ga. I thinke I haue heard it long agoe, but not as thou hast told it: and therefore as it is, I thanke thee for it. And now since it is not farre to the Towne, I pray thee let me trie a litle of thy wit, in the answers of a few questions that I will put vnto thee:

Gri. With

Grimellos Fortunes

Gri. With all my heart Sir, I am for you at this time.

Ga. I pray thee, who was the happiest man that ever thou knewest?

Gri. My Lord Governours Krole.

Ga. And why?

Gri. Because his maister favours him, and none dare hurt him: hee fares well, and sleepes well, weares good cloathes, and takes no paines.

Ga. Countest thou this a happines?

Gri. For a lazie spirit, but not for my selfe.

Ga. Why, how wouldest thou be happie?

Gri. In a feeling of Gods grace, in sufficiency of abilitie, to live without borrowing: in wit, to discern iustly: in Conscience, to deale truly: in an honest kinde wife, gracious childzen, honest servants, faithfull friendes, and quiet neighbours: Neither disire of life, nor feare of death, but a scozne of the one, and contented minde in the other.

Ga. Well said: But all this while, I heare thee speake of no maister.

Gri. Oh no Sir, for to a free spirit, there is no greater miserie then bondage: And yet, a kinde maister, is a kinde of father: where loue breeding obedience, maketh a servant like a Sonne.

Ga. And what sayest thou of a kinde mistresse?

Gri. With a kinde maister, they are the harts comforter, and they are like unto a paire of Gloues, that fitte both hands.

Ga. But couldest thou please both?

Gri. If I know both.

Grimmellos Fortunes.

Gan When let me put thee in comfort, of me thou shalt haue rather a father then a sciend to nourish thy good spiritte & of my wife, rather a sister then a mistresse to make much of thee for my sake.

Gr. I thanke you Sir, and for the good I see in you, and the good I hope of you, I will trie my Fortune with you.

Ga. And do not thinke it shall be the worst. Come on, you shall goe to the towne, and there dine with mee, and so home.

Gri. I will attend you.

FINIS.



